

## Columnist says: remember history's lessons

By JOHN MALNACK II

"If I were on the advisory board to the university here in Omaha, I would say: 'Teach the students what has gone before. Have them read history in the mornings, in the afternoon and at night.'

"Have them study the lives of the men and the women who have preceded us and the governments that have succeeded and failed."

The importance of history was repeatedly emphasized by featured speaker Hugh Sidey, *Time* magazine columnist, during the Academy, Business and Community Breakfast last Thursday at Omaha's Holiday Inn. The event was co-sponsored by UNO and The Omaha *World-Herald*.

A fourth-generation journalist born in Greenfield, Iowa, Sidey worked on his family's weekly newspaper, The Adair County *Free Press*.

After working for the Council Bluffs *Nonpareil* in 1950, Sidey joined the *World-Herald* in 1951. He began working for *Life* magazine in 1955 and then for *Time* magazine in Washington, D.C., in 1958. Sidey's column, "The Presidency," began in *Life* in 1968 and has been featured in *Time* since 1973. He has written about the American presidency for 25 years and has known the last seven U.S. presidents.

"In this age of babble that we have created in Washington ... we would save ourselves an immense amount of time if we just knew what had gone before," Sidey said.

A better understanding of history could have averted the current controversy concerning President Reagan's scheduled visit to the German military cemetery in Bitburg, West Germany, he said.

"I wish that Mike Deaver (White House deputy chief of staff) had read a little history when he went over to pick a cemetery or someplace for the president to lay a wreath or make a commemoration," Sidey said. "Forty-two years old, but he (Deaver) was only 3 years old (during) the Battle of the Bulge; I guess that's the problem."

Reagan's visit to the cemetery, planned for May 5, has sparked criticism in the United States, particularly among U.S. Jews and World War II veterans. Some 49 members of Adolf Hitler's elite Waffen SS corps are buried in the cemetery among about 2,000 other German soldiers, many of whom were killed in the Battle of the Bulge, launched by Nazi Germany in December 1944. The United States and its allies suffered heavy casualties during the battle.

Reagan, it was originally announced, was to have laid a wreath in Bitburg.

### Bitburg wrong

"Had somebody in the White House stopped to read or talk to somebody," Sidey said, "they wouldn't have decided to commemorate that battle at that place at that time."

"I think the criticism of Ronald Reagan over Bitburg was unfair," he said. "I think the decision was wrong, but that decision came out of a noble impulse: to go beyond the Holocaust and beyond World War II."

"And so maybe we, in our special-interest groups, should take a second look at what he (Reagan) was trying to do and understand that we really have had no president that was perfect," Sidey said.

While watching last week's Congressional debate on Reagan's request for \$14 million in non-military aid for the Nicaraguan contras, Sidey said he was reminded of the 1962 Cuban missile crisis.

### 'Impossible happened'

"There is still no provision to help those contras, who are fighting presumably for democracy, or their version of it," Sidey said. "What are we going to do there?" he asked. "Are we going to walk away from it?"

"Why don't they (Congressmen) read history?" he asked. "What is the other evidence we have before us?"

"I think back to the Cuban missile crisis, when the impossible happened," Sidey said, "when what wasn't supposed to happen and wouldn't happen, as told me by the president (Kennedy), did happen."

In retrospect, Sidey said, the Cuban missile crisis was perhaps not as great as then thought, "because we had a margin of power of at least 3-to-1 over the Soviet Union," he said. "But at that time we didn't know it."

"There could come a time, not unlike the Cuban missile crisis, when the Soviet Union wants something and they decide to take it, and then we suddenly wake up and the margin (of military superiority) is 3-to-1 in *their* favor," Sidey said.

Sidey described the nuclear-arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union as "a madness of a kind." But until some sort of agreement is reached, "It seems to me that it's necessary, to a point," he added. "What's the alternative?"

### 'Victory without war'

"Once again, read history," Sidey said. "Most of the modern tragedies in war came not from arms races but arms imbalances. Arms imbalances have led to more problems in our world than arms races."

According to former President Richard Nixon, Sidey said, "What the Soviets want is victory without war, and I think he's absolutely right. He's (Nixon) as evil as ever, but he's smart."

U.S. citizens' criticism of their country is increasing, accord-



Sidey

ing to Sidey, "and that's good," he said. "But we are in a struggle in this world."

Sidey cited Winston Churchill, saying, "If you equate the Soviet system and the free world, if you truly believe that the free world's objectives are the same as those of the communist nations, then we'd better give up right now, because we've lost the battle."

"And I hear that, not directly, but the overtones. That what we did in Grenada is just as bad as what the Soviets did in Afghanistan. That what we tried to do in Vietnam is just as evil as what the Soviets did in Czechoslovakia or Romania. No, I don't believe that," he said.

### Tax reform

Citing recent tax-reform proposals, Sidey said tax reform must come before special-interest considerations.

"Those who would make sure their special interest is excluded from (a tax-reform) bill ... all of us who have our lobbyists in Washington who say, 'Oh, that's all right, tax them but not us, give us our loophole, we better think again,'" he said. "Because there's an interest greater than any one of us."

### Destructive attitude

Sidey said he is critical of television news media. "I've watched too many nights the breathless reporting from the front lawn of the White House or the capitol as they've recreated crisis after crisis that never happened," he said.

In the aftermath of Vietnam and Watergate, many in the media have developed a "destructive attitude," Sidey said. "And so, when any mistake was made, instantly we questioned the motives and the morals of the people involved."

He said the news media should be "more sympathetic" to others' faults.

Sidey also said TV news media mold U.S. public opinion. "Television will choose our nominees for president, television sets the national attitudes in so much," he said.

"And I saw some of the major figures in the media write columns which condemned the American electorate as stupid and foolish because they were going to vote for Reagan," Sidey said.

Sidey described Washington, D.C., as "a state within a state" populated by an "elite" group that has become more isolated than ever before. The capitol is a group of politicians, pollsters and academics who have become a society unto themselves, Sidey said.

### Personal profiles

Characterizing some of the U.S. presidents and politicians he has known, Sidey said Sen. Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts built his career on others' poverty, the handicapped and the underprivileged.

The late Sen. Hubert Humphrey was a man with more answers than there were problems, Sidey said.

He said President Lyndon Johnson equated the South Vietnamese with the defenders of the Alamo, but "it wasn't that simple," Sidey said. He said Johnson tried to oversee the Vietnam war effort from the dining room and did not understand that fighting the war was different from passing a bill in Congress.

Sidey said Dwight Eisenhower "used to sit up in his bedroom and read Zane Grey novels and paint by numbers. But we didn't understand how wise the man was" when he advised vigilance concerning the "military-industrial complex."

"Jimmy Carter had the best mind academically of any American president ... and yet he wasn't a very good president, he wasn't a very good leader. He couldn't make decisions. Events overwhelmed him," Sidey said. "He should have been a minister."

Former President Nixon's popularity among the public is increasing, Sidey said. "In 100 years it is not inconceivable that Richard Nixon will be rated as one of the top presidents of this period," he said.

"I admire that," Sidey said, "but nations don't run on that. Today's problem is the middle class is in trouble, the people that do the work."

"Somebody read history for Teddy Kennedy a month ago, and he discovered the middle class," Sidey said.

### Ignoramus

Sidey said John F. Kennedy was the best president whom he has known.

Reagan "tends to trifle with the facts," Sidey said. Reagan's enthusiasm for his positions, he said, makes him "overstate his case" more than have most presidents. Sidey attributed that partially to "sloppiness," but added that Reagan "is not a man overburdened with fact on any given day."

Reagan is "an ignoramus" about some issues, Sidey said. "He just doesn't know the facts, he doesn't study memos, he doesn't get up early ... but his intuition is remarkable."

Although he cited some desirable qualities in a president, Sidey said it is difficult to quantify what makes a good president. "We choose blindly in some cases. We only tell once they get into office."



Kirk Frost

### Culinary culture

Wally Gill, Goodrich Program instructor, and Goodrich student Candy Parker, enjoy the food at Sunday's Multi-Cultural Dinner for Goodrich freshmen, at the Alumni House. Gill was wearing African-style clothing.



# Chicano leader stresses culture, history and rights

By SUSAN KUHLMANN

Calling UNO a "monster," Roberto Maestas said its system was "created to exclude minority people and poor people of all colors."

Maestas addressed a group of South High School students, composed primarily of Chicanos, at UNO Friday.

The outspoken Chicano leader is the executive director of El Centro de la Raza, an Hispanic social services center in Seattle. He has co-authored two books with UNO communications professor Bruce Johansen. Maestas also spoke to several classes on the UNO campus last week.

He said the university not because it "has a big, warm, open heart for poor people and people of color," but rather because "your fathers, your grandfathers, your brothers and sisters before you have struggled hard, have given up their lives, their sweat and their blood to open the door for students like you."

He expressed optimism that UNO would be a different place in four or five years when they were ready to leave it.

Maestas predicted that students entering the university would encounter problems such as racism, though he said it might be subtle and difficult to recognize. He suggested they examine it, adding, "if you have an understanding of it, you can better defend yourself."

He characterized the students as coming mostly from poor and working-class families, and offered this single bit of advice, "Don't take any shit from nobody."

Maestas told the group to remember if they encountered any racism in their classes that they are not alone; they have had brothers and sisters before them who have faced similar problems.

He encouraged Chicano students to enroll in Spanish classes

so they could discover the language. He urged the others to do the same, saying, "The Spanish language is here to stay. It has as much right to be part of the national language as English."

The Chicano leader said minorities know more about how the system works than white people because "we have been under the gun longer."

Chicanos need to tell their white brothers and sisters that they are not foreigners; they are part-Indian, and were in this country for thousands of years before the white people ever came, said Maestas.

He continued, "We don't want them to go back to Europe, but we want them to live like brothers and sisters, and to know our history and our culture and our heritage."

Maestas compared the students to their counterparts in Nicaragua (a country he has visited six times in the past three years). He said students there are finally able to attend universities free of charge. But, said Maestas, "They are having to leave their books to go and fight a war that the United States government is waging."

Maestas also addressed that issue Thursday night when he spoke at the Second Unitarian Church, 3019 S. 119 St.

His talk, "United States Policy as Seen From Managua," was sponsored by several local peace groups.

Maestas was largely responsible for Seattle's adoption of Managua, Nicaragua, as a sister city. His most recent visit to that country was earlier this month.

Maestas said the United States has repeatedly invaded countries to its south over the past 139 years. His count included 14 times in Nicaragua before there was a Soviet presence. Because of that, he questioned why, only now, is the U.S. claiming a Soviet threat as an excuse.

Maestas blamed many of the problems in Latin American countries on powerful U.S. companies. He said the transnational organizations that "pillage and plunder Latin America" are the "illegal aliens."

According to Maestas, Nicaragua has lost 58,000 people since 1961 in its efforts for freedom — a number nearly equal to the number of U.S. lives lost in the Vietnam conflict.

He said improvements made in Nicaragua in the 5½ years of the revolution included increased number of schools and health facilities, greater attendance at the universities, a decrease in illiteracy and an increased life expectancy. Maestas said there is an emphasis in the country, especially in the education system, in "creating a new human being" and on stressing Christian values such as sharing and brotherhood.

He called Wednesday's Congressional defeat of \$14 million in aid for the contras, requested by President Reagan, "a significant victory for the people of the United States, Nicaragua and the world."

He said the contras are composed of mercenaries, Nicaraguans who view the Sandinistas as communists, and wealthy land owners who lost their holdings when the Somoza government was overthrown.

The contras are "reeling from the blow" of the defeat in Congress, according to Maestas, and their options are becoming limited. Two of those options, said Maestas, are to continue receiving financial aid from private sources in the United States and a U.S. invasion. "All Ronald Reagan needs is what he *thinks* is a good excuse to invade," Maestas said.

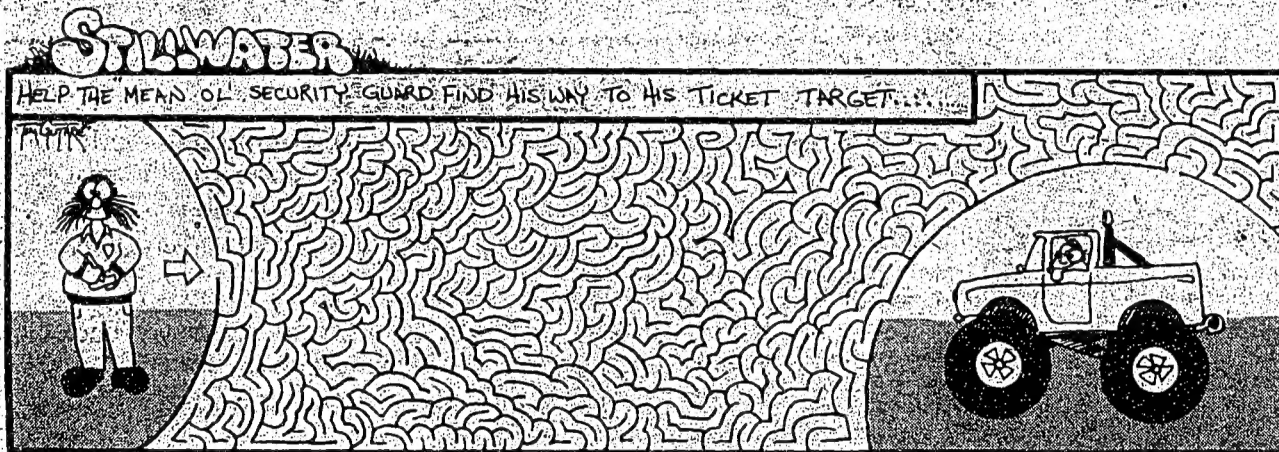
He added, "It's not going to be another Grenada. It would be a blood bath," which, Maestas predicted, would extend to the entire region.

When asked about the media's accuracy in portraying the present situation in Nicaragua, Maestas said he had noticed greater disenchantment with the government because of inflation on his latest visit there. But he added it was being blown out of proportion by the American media.

He was also asked about the presence of Cuban advisors. He said the Cuban government has been helpful in supplying teachers, construction workers and other workers "with no strings attached." But the goal of Nicaragua, Maestas said, is to be independent of all foreign governments.

In response to a question concerning the possibility of the Nicaraguan government turning to the Soviet Union for help as a reaction to U.S. aid to the contras, Maestas said, "There is nothing the American government can do to push the Nicaraguan people into the arms of the Soviet Union. But when they (the Nicaraguans) are struggling for survival, they'll take help from wherever they can get it."

Maestas said, "The people of Nicaragua only want peace. We'll never turn over our freedom to anyone else."



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## News Briefs

The University of Nebraska at Omaha Bands will present an old-fashioned outdoor pops concert Thursday, May 2 at 6 p.m. to wind up their 1984-85 seasons.

The bands will play overtures, marches and novelty features, and those attending are invited to bring a picnic dinner and lawn chairs or blankets to the event. Refreshments will be available for purchase.

The concert is free and open to the public. Parking will be available. In case of bad weather, the concert will be moved into the Strauss Performing Arts Center.

### All together now

The heads of UNO and Creighton's health sciences departments are considering the possibility of joint residential education programs between the two medical schools. The purpose of this would be to avoid duplication and best utilize the available resources.

Charles Andrews, UNMC chancellor, and Richard O'Brien, Creighton dean of medicine, have been meeting each month for over a year to explore the idea. The programs under consideration include communal programs for physicians in orthopedics, urology, pediatrics, trauma services and psychiatry.

The two university officials are trustees of the Creighton-Nebraska Universities Health Foundation. The foundation was started 15 years ago to assist the schools in making maximum use of faculty, making clinical training for the schools' students available and providing health care throughout the Midlands.

Interest in such joint efforts has been heightened since a report by the Governor's Commission on Higher Education in Nebraska recommended that the presidents of the schools look into the possibilities of closer ties between the two medical schools.

The department of neurology, now jointly operated by the two schools, is an outgrowth of the Foundation and the schools' efforts to pool their resources.

### Outstanding commander

Russell J. Shaw Jr., a senior criminal justice major at UNO, has been named the recipient of the Arnold Air Society Area XIII Outstanding Squadron Commander Award. This honor makes him eligible for the national Commanders Cup Award.

Shaw is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell J. Shaw Sr. of Lowell, Mass.

### Employee health

During the month of June the university will hold a Health Insurance Enrollment period. During June, employees will be able to transfer from one Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) to another.

They may transfer from an HMO such as Share and Health America, or Mutual of Omaha to one of the HMOs, or vice versa. All changes will be effective August 1. These transfers may be made without restrictions on pre-existing conditions and without evidence of insurability unless you are adding a previously uninsured dependent. You may not, during this period, transfer from one Mutual of Omaha plan to another (basic and high option) or add dependents without completing an evidence of insurability.

Premium rates for the 1985-86 plan year have not yet been set. Employees will be informed of these rates as soon as they are available. Meetings will be scheduled in early May, when representatives from each plan will be available to answer questions. If you have any questions, call Manager of Fringe Benefits Paul R. Hayduska, 554-2321.

### Film contest

The third annual competition for the Dore Schary Awards for student-developed films and video productions on human relations themes has been announced by the Anti-Defamation

League of B'nai B'rith.

The contest is open to undergraduate and graduate students majoring in filmmaking and television who have completed a film or video production on the subject theme during the 1984-85 college year.

The awards honor the memory of Schary, a playwright, producer, and filmmaker who was active with ADL for more than 40 years, seven of which he served as the league's national chairman. Maxwell Dane and Michael H. Dann are co-chairman of the committee.

First and second prizes for film and for video will be awarded in two categories:

- Narrative, animation, live-action; and
- Documentary, experimental.

All entries must be received by July 31st.

The first-place winners will each receive \$1,000; second place, \$500. The schools sponsoring the first-place winners will receive plaques. The winners will be announced at a special luncheon in New York in December.

Mail to: Television, Radio and Film Dept., Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, 823 United Nations Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10017.

### Teachers needed

The Foreign and Domestic Teachers' Organization needs teacher applicants in all fields from kindergarten through college to fill teaching vacancies both at home and abroad.

Those seeking information about the organization may write to: The National Teacher's Placement Agency, Universal Teachers, Box 5231, Portland, Oregon, 97208.

According to agency president John P. McAndrew, "We still need about 200 teachers to fill positions in the Midwest, West, and overseas."

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# Comment

## It won't go away

Last week Congress refused to approve military or humanitarian aid to the Nicaraguan contras. What do we do now?

One course of action, obviously, is inaction. In other words, we can put our heads in the sand and ignore the probability that what induced the contras to begin their resistance, namely a Marxist-Leninist Sandinista regime, has been unable or unwilling to afford enough of its people a semblance of democracy.

But maybe the Sandinista government isn't that bad? One might get that impression listening to peripatetic U.S. Congressmen who make a pilgrimage to Nicaragua.

But the exodus of Nicaraguan refugees into neighboring Central American nations, primarily Honduras, tells a different story.

Most experts doubt the contras are capable of toppling the Sandinistas outright; they might exert enough pressure to force the Sandinistas to negotiate. If such is not the case, we can all watch as the contras hold on as long as possible, then drop.

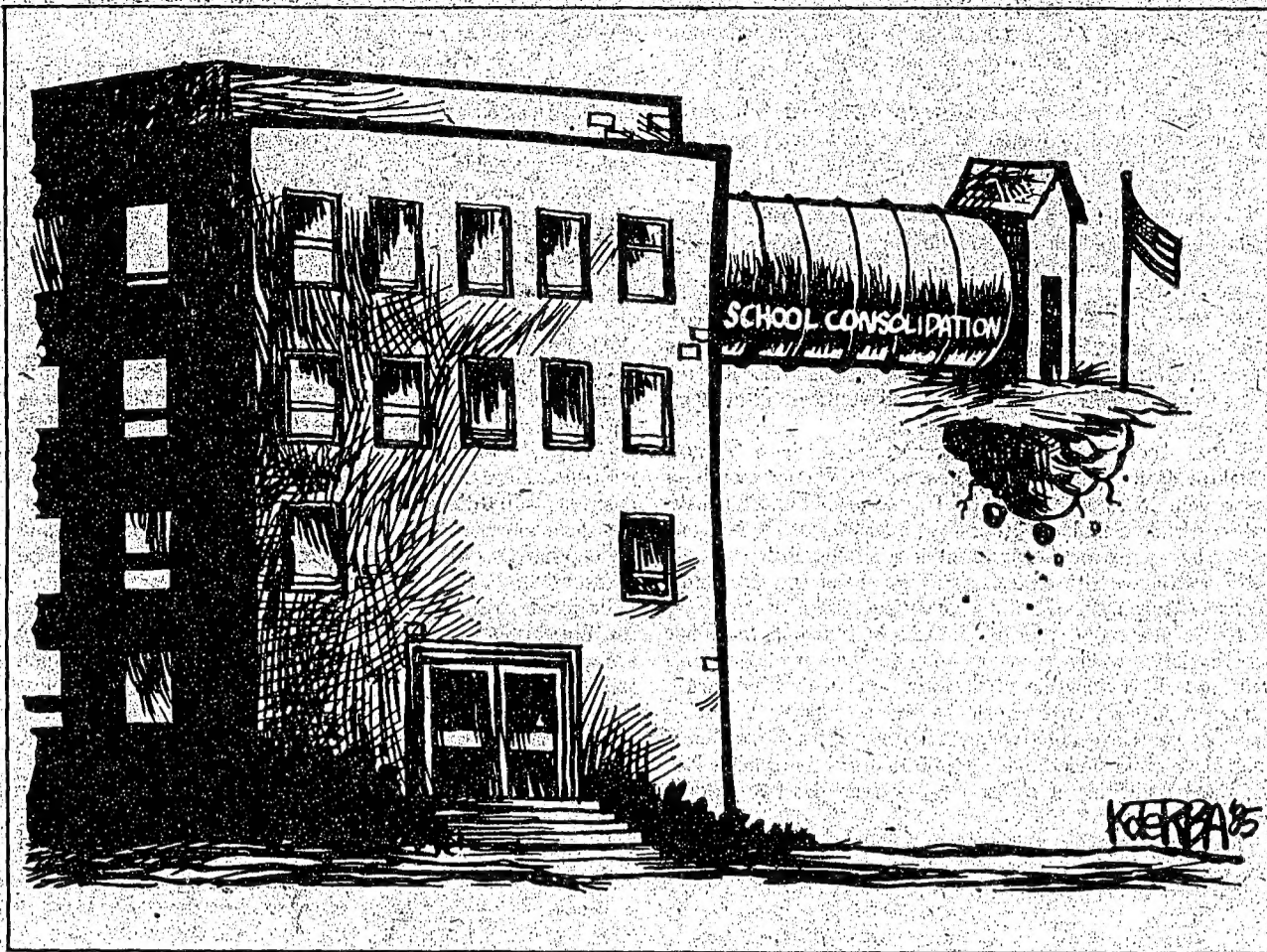
If this happens, Congressmen like Tip O'Neill will have succeeded in thwarting President Reagan, but also in eliminating the last barrier to a full-blown communist satellite in Nicaragua. They'll be able to build, unhindered, as many giant, military-type airstrips as they want.

And they'll have no problem amassing all the military hardware they desire, for "self-defense" purposes only, of course. Never mind that this nation is already much more heavily armed than its neighbors.

Nicaragua is not Vietnam. It's closer geographically to the U.S. and consequently of more strategic importance.

We shouldn't have to apologize for taking an active interest in our own hemisphere, and if we don't help the contras, we'll just have to help one of Nicaragua's neighbors fend off stronger Sandinistas later on, possibly with our own soldiers.

—JOHN MALNACK II



## Neurotica

By Karen Nelson

## Tricks of the trade

Since this is going to be my final column (or, as one friend put it, "You mean you're not going to hide behind the column any more?"), you might expect me to get a little sentimental.

Who, *me*? Sentimental? Not on your life. I mean, I've made a career since 1983 out of being cynical and unsentimental. In spite of the fact that a position such as this one can leave you open to strange looks, ridicule and death threats, people have been asking me two questions: 1) "Are you still going to write the column?"; and 2) "Do you have any openings for columnists?"

The answer to the first question is simple — no. As for the second question — well, the job isn't quite as easy as you may think. You're only *supposed* to think that anyone can write about Student Senate, Yuppies or the follies of romance. There are some tricks to column writing. None of them are deep, dark secrets, so I suppose it wouldn't hurt to share a few with you.

1. *Observe everything.* You have to be a bit of an eavesdropper to write a column like this. I've been in training for this job since I was 5 years old. You don't have to be the last person chosen to play on a team during recess, the only kid not invited to a birthday party given by the most popular girl in school or the kid with the fewest valentines, but it helps.

Since I was forced to live life on the sidelines, I got to watch everyone else have what appeared to be a good time. At first, I tried to join them, tried to make myself acceptable. It never worked. By the time I got into high school, a strange thing happened — it was more fun to watch everyone else get into trouble than to be part of the group.

To this day, I'm still an outsider, what writer Nora Ephron called "a wallflower at the orgy." I listen far more than I talk, and use practically everything sooner or later. Most of the time, no one even notices me.

2. *Keep up with the real world.* If you don't read the newspapers and magazines, listen to the radio and hang out in the right places, you might as well not even bother to put the paper in the typewriter. (Some would say you should watch TV as well, but a quick scan of TV Guide will tell you everything you need to know about what's on the tube — sometimes, *more* than you want to know.)

What are the right places? It depends on what you want to write about. I really *do* hang around the Student Center and the Old Market, listen to people on buses and in fast-food joints, and, in spite of all the bad things I've said in the past, make an occasional visit to a bar or two with friends.

Of course, if you want to write a column for the National

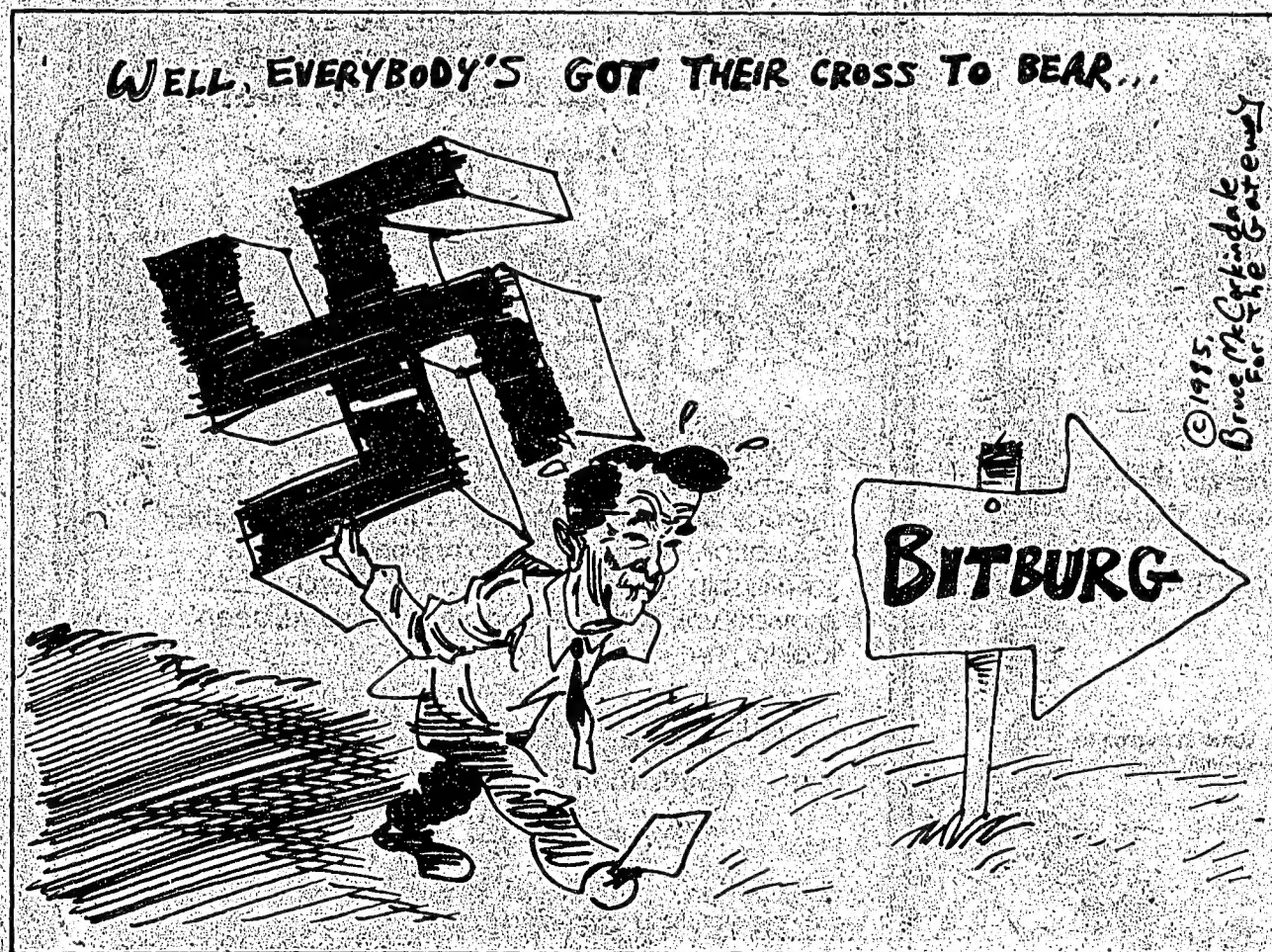
Enquirer, you don't have to hang out anywhere. Just make it up as you go along.

3. *Have a basic format to work with.* "Formula" isn't always a dirty word. Most columnists seem to have one or two formats that they lean on, at least to get themselves started. I like to list things, whether it's how to do something, Neurotica Awards for Tackiness Below and Beyond the Call of Duty, new vacation spots or most eligible people. Since I'm limited to around 80 lines, it's one of the most efficient ways to get a great deal of information into a short column.

Running into fictional "friends" has also been a favorite device of mine. You'd be surprised how many of my friends think they recognize themselves as characters in my columns. You'd also be surprised how many of them are right. You'd be even more surprised how many of them *remain* my friends.

And if it weren't for my friends in and out of The Gateway, I would have probably written my last column in May 1983 instead of May 1985. All of you — and there's too many to list in the last few lines of a column — have been inspirations and supports for me. I appreciate it.

There's more to writing a column than this, but you're on your own now. Heck, I can't be expected to give away *all* my secrets, now, can I?



### The Gateway

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## Op Ed -

## 'Grand Old Game' still grand despite some 'gashes'

"There are no institutions," wrote H.L. Mencken, "only fashions." Since he wrote that statement in 1912, one can only guess what Henry Louis might say about the present condition. We must, after all, swallow numerous indignations; from Congressmen behaving as schoolyard children to such suggestions of *chivalry* as designated runners in prolonged softball games. Not to mention isolated flummery in between. (Thank you, Mr. Tyrrell.)

But enough meandering for now. It is time to commence with Serious Business: The music retailers of Omaha are enemies of the state.

It is possible to walk into one of their miniature emporiums and purchase a given "musical" offering from such as the Motley Crue (now, *there* is truth in advertising!), yet it is impossible to find, in the oldies sections, a copy of Terry Cashman's "Talkin' Baseball."

Clearly, we have a vacuum of moral fiber here. This single was a huge hit in 1981. It is by now regarded as baseball's "America the Beautiful," much as "Take Me Out To The Ball Game" is regarded as the game's "The Star Spangled Banner." Wherefore art thine consciences, retailers?

Every American youth ought to be able to identify Willie, Mickey, and the Duke, before being permitted to go out on that first date. And, while we're at it, it ought to be required of aspiring Congressional candidates that they know the final year in which major league baseball was played in the nation's capital. I concede that it will hardly resolve the nation's economic problems. But it might help relieve the nation of a number of its most insufferable Congressional recalcitrants.

I ought not to suggest that the grand old game is bereft of its gashes. In the previous week, we have been reminded, in a less than subtle manner, that even acts of God are polluted by

men of less than sacred matter, and it is in those moments we realize how precious is our patrimony that it might survive its most heinous footnotes. I am thinking, of course, of Denny McLain, the pitcher turned racketeer.

McLain was sentenced last week to sit for 23 years in the federal penitentiary, convicted of bookmaking, loansharking, and extortion. Given his chance to state his piece just prior to sentencing, McLain told the judge, "I don't know how you can get to where I am in 17 years from where I was." One could feel sorry for the man were it not for the fact that a remark such as that suggests he was born without first having accepted the brains fitted for his skull.

McLain, you see, was sitting on top of the universe in 1968. He was the first pitcher since Dizzy Dean to win 30 or more major league contests in a single season. The next season, he won a second consecutive Cy Young Award as the American League's premier pitcher. But McLain succeeded most in convincing himself that he could get away with just about anything short of first-degree murder. In 1970, for example, he was suspended for 132 days for keeping company with bookmakers, and an additional 38-day suspension was served upon him when he was found packing an illegal gun.

By his own admission, McLain was possessed of greed, avarice and a thirst for the fast buck. By his own unquenchable thirst, he will be spending a good portion of his remaining life behind bars.

Some of the talk surrounding the McLain case suggests McLain was pampered and protected by his team (the Detroit Tigers) and his adoring public, to the point where he simply could not resist the temptation to think of himself as a god immune to accountability. Well, a case such as that can be made

to a certain point. But at which space on the line does the point appear? Lesser men than McLain have received the same sort of adoration from their public and employers, yet have succeeded in turning away from the element into which McLain easily slid. Players with statistics which might have made McLain laugh like a berserk child have succeeded in creating lives of firm direction and enviable content.

Consider for a moment the case of Sandy Koufax. The brilliant Dodger pitcher stood at the height of his career in 1966, when he retired at age 30 due to an arthritic condition in his pitching elbow. There remain those who believe Koufax had taken leave of his senses.

He has just won 27 games, earned a third Cy Young Award when it was given to one pitcher from either league, and led the majors in strikeouts and earned-run average a fourth year in succession. But he faced the press, told his fans he had no intention of losing the use of one arm for the rest of his life, and walked away from the public eye.

Following a few years of broadcasting, Koufax spent his time traveling, investing, living quietly in the San Fernando Valley with his wife, emerging only on such occasions as his 1972 induction into the Hall of Fame. He remains the youngest man to have been inducted into the shrine.

McLain had enough of a measure of Koufax's fame to afford him the opportunity to gather up salutary support and build something resembling direction. There remain those former players who hold to the view that Koufax was something of a hopeless square (in '60s dialect). But it will not be Koufax who spends the next 23 years of his life staring between the bars of prison.

—JEFFREY A. KALLMAN

## Letters

## To the Editor:

Your exhortation for students to read the classics in philosophy, literature and history has a hollow, if not a hypocritical, ring to it. As a communicator and as an editor of a liberal arts institution's newspaper, the least you could do is spell the title of Shakespeare's play correctly. It is *Macbeth*, not *MacBeth*.

Rick Coyle

Touché, Mr. Coyle. "Confusion now hath made his masterpiece!" (*Macbeth*, Act II, Scene 3) — Ed.

## To the Editor:

I have just finished reading the article "Gains and losses tell enrollment tale" in the April 24, 1985, issue of the Gateway. I enjoyed the article and found it interesting. I am wondering why, though, that Dr. Marjorie Wikoff, undergraduate counselor for Arts and Sciences, was interviewed about graduate education. I would think it would have been more appropriate to have interviewed the Dean for Graduate Studies and Research.

I would also like to occasionally see articles

about graduate education. For example, what is the UNO Graduate Council and what is it doing, what opportunities in graduate education are available, what is the Dean of Graduate Studies' philosophy on graduate education, etc.

Graduate students comprise approximately 10 percent of the student body. I do think they should be represented in the Gateway occasionally.

Carla Lewton,

Coordinator, Graduate Studies

## To the Editor:

Is maintenance a four-letter word at the HPER building? The men's locker room has turned into a pit. Faucets have been broken for months. Two hair dryers have also been broken for at least two months. The floors are both dirty and sticky. The shower area has mold on the walls.

The locker room surely is a pit for most students and must also be a negative influence on athletes UNO tries to recruit. Let's clean up the place so it is less of a health hazard.

A HPER User

## Butter better than bullets?

I'm the first to admit that I'm no foreign policy expert. But it doesn't take an expert to realize that the Reagan administration has missed the boat, or rather, the cargo ship, in Nicaragua.

Instead of trying to kill those godless communists, why didn't anybody think of feeding them?

Godless or not, communists are (dare I say it?) people too. They have to eat. They need machinery and equipment for industry. They need trading partners.

I can't help but think that, all things being equal, they'd rather trade with a virtual next-door neighbor (that is just incidentally the richest country on earth) than with a monolithic and financially strapped government half a world away.

Communist or not, if your people are well fed and your balance of trade is sound, you're far less inclined to broaden your economic base by exporting revolution. And you sure wouldn't do it if it meant hacking off your best trading partner.

get along rather well with the United States. The U.S. has never tried to overthrow me for my godlessness, and we maintain a satisfactory trading relationship. Could the Reagan administration not have extended the same courtesy to Nicaragua?

Of course, all things are not equal. The past and current administrations of the United States have bred nothing but hate and distrust among its southern neighbors with their policies, and the time is long past when they will regard the U.S. as anything but an exploitative bully.

But I still find it amazing that an administration so zealously devoted to capitalism and the open market would pass up a chance to trade in its own back yard. If the intent of U.S. involvement in Nicaragua is to bring stability to the region, they could not have picked worse tools than guns and subversion.

The Reagan administration has overlooked its best and most powerful weapon for bringing peace and stability to Central America — international trade.

—DAN PRESCHER

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# Stevie Ray Vaughn works his blues magic on Omaha

Success has been a long time coming for Stevie Ray Vaughn. Starting out some 15 years ago in Austin with just a '59 Stratocaster, he's worked his way around the country baptizing fans with a cool shower of Texas blues.

Now 29 years old, Vaughn is recognized by critics as one of the most talented guitar players to emerge in this decade. His work is often compared to classics by Jimi Hendrix and Freddie King.

But despite kudos he's earned from his peers, Vaughn's albums, "Texas Flood" and "Can't Stand the Weather," seem to be two of the music industry's best-kept secrets. And Vaughn has only recently broken into album-oriented radio, with his only Top 40 success coming from his solo on David Bowie's "Cat People."

But Wednesday night at the Music Hall, Vaughn's talent was definitely out from under wraps. A crowd just 130 shy of a sell-out showed up to be converted to Vaughn's brand of blues. Besides the die-hard fans, there were many in attendance who looked surprisingly young to be at a traditional blues concert. It soon became obvious, however, that Stevie Ray was the man of the hour.

The crowd was tolerant of the opening act, the Sluggers, but sat restlessly through their 45 minutes of rockabilly. After a short intermission and several false starts, Stevie Ray Vaughn and Double Trouble took the stage, and the screaming, applauding audience never looked back.

Vaughn cranked up the amps and kicked off the set with his

searing rendition of "Voodoo Child." He shared center stage with bass guitarist Tommy Shannon, who laid down a pulsing backbeat for Vaughn's ricochet fret-work.

While the format was strictly 12 bar, the two embellished old songs with new twists. Especially innovative was "Tin Pan Alley," where Vaughn's sound effects graphically portrayed the bone-chilling scream of a woman and the sudden burst of a gunshot. The audience was awed by the sheer drama of the song.

A large part of the two-hour concert seemed like a jam session to showcase Vaughn's mastery of his guitar. The only interruptions came with an occasional blown amp or a stage hand trying to resurrect some piece of equipment unable to withstand Vaughn's high-voltage playing.

Double Trouble has gained a keyboard player recently, but frankly, it didn't make much of a difference in their overall sound. At most times it was barely audible.

The crowd brought Vaughn back for a two-song encore that consisted of a Hendrix jam and his trademark song, "Pride and Joy."

There seems to be a resurgence of blues — or, more accurately, blues guitarists — recently. Sixties heavyweights Eric Clapton, Jimmy Page and Jeff Beck are all musically active once again. Whether this trend will open any doors for Vaughn remains to be seen.

—MISTY HOIEKVAM and  
KIRK FROST



VAUGHN

Kirk Frost

## 'Lost in America' a 'must' for Albert Brooks fans

Having already given the world his view of "modern romance," actor/writer/director Albert Brooks has now turned his comic wit toward other forms of mental instability, finding himself "lost in America."

"Lost in America" is the story of a financially sound (yet emotionally drained) couple who decide to sell everything and travel the country in an over-equipped Winnebago, hoping to "find themselves." What they find instead is a series of minor catastrophes that test their relationships as well as their mental well-being.

Brooks, who co-wrote and directed the film, is hilarious in his portrayal of David Howard, an up-and-coming advertising executive who chucks his \$100,000-a-year job in favor of the transient lifestyle. Brooks plays the worrisome professional with uncanny accuracy, utilizing his I've-just-taken-six-Quaaludes-but-I'm-still-going-to-burst-acting style to near perfection.

that the film rises to a level of pure hilarity. In one such scene, David turns into a raving lunatic after learning that a less-qualified employee has been awarded a much-anticipated promotion. Just watching Brooks let loose is funny in itself, but the extended pre-outburst dialogue makes the scene doubly entertaining.

Equally amusing is Julie Hagerty as David's emotionally frazzled wife, Linda. Hagerty is best remembered as Robert Hays' stewardess girlfriend in the successful film "Airplane." Her overly timid portrayal of a bored personnel director is the perfect counterpart to Brooks' character. The childlike quality of her character makes for a riotous (yet somewhat disturbing) series of events when she takes the couple's nestegg and runs amuck in a Las Vegas casino.

However, if there is anything bad about "Lost in America," it would have to be the annoying quality of Hagerty's voice. Her adolescent giggle and obnoxiously bashful smile get to be a bit nauseating after the first hour or so. Toward the end of the film, it would almost be nice to see Brooks ram a dirty sock down her pretty little throat.

More than anything, it is Brooks' subtle humor which makes "Lost in America" so funny. In one such scene, David tries to convince his wife how much fun it will be to see the sights of America. "It's just like 'Easy Rider' except it's our turn," he says in all sincerity. Many miles down the road, however, he turns back to Linda and announces, "My legs are asleep. Let's live here."

Also worth mentioning is Brooks' directing style. He fre-

quently uses a stationary camera which allows minor characters to mill around in a scene while he moves in and out. At times, the casual dialogue and "hidden camera" effect make the film seem like a segment of "60 Minutes." All in all, it greatly enhances the reality of the movie.

"Lost in America" is an absolute must for Albert Brooks fans or anyone who's ever wanted to tell society to stuff it. The film is apparently rated R for two or three outpourings of profanity and some mild sexual references. The rating is just as well. Pre-college crowds probably wouldn't appreciate the humor.

"Lost in America" is now showing exclusively at the Cinema Center.

—PATRICK C. STEPHENSON

## Review

Brooks' sedate-yet-tense style holds this film together with the unifying power of new and improved Crazy Glue. Without a doubt, the character of David fits the actor's dry humor better than anything he's done in years. As a result, "Lost in America" could easily be the funniest film of the season.

Brooks' incredible reserve is amusing in itself. However, it is when he finally allows his character to sail over the deep end

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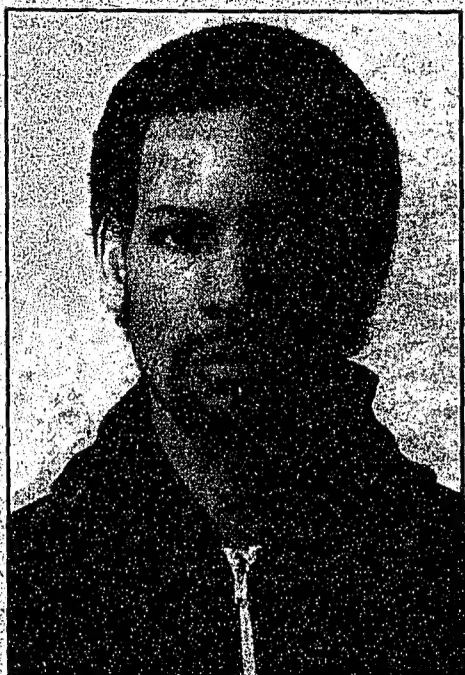
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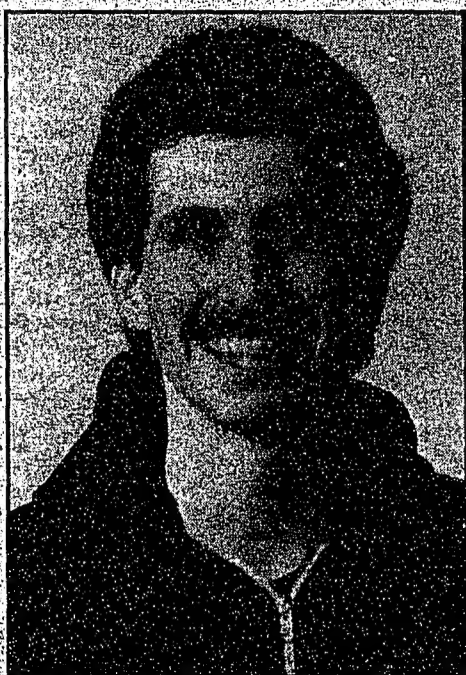
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# Sports



Murrell



Mingo



Crawford



Harder

## Relay team scares school 4x800 record

The UNO track team's middle-distance crew shook off some early season blues with a near-record performance at the 76th running of the Drake Relays Friday.

A Maverick foursome of Byron Murrell, Mike Mingo, Kelly Crawford and Gerald Harder relayed a 7:20.0 fourth-place effort in the college division 4 X 800. UNO Assistant Coach Steve Jones said the performance was one of the fastest in school history. Jones, the middle-distance coach, was a member of the UNO team that

ran the current school record of 7:26.69 in the 1977 Drake Relays.

"A lot of years, that time would have won the meet," Jones said. "They were a real pleasant surprise. Friday, they showed that they are just as strong as the rest of the teams in the North Central Conference."

The middle-distance crew had caused some doubts to be cast its way when, early in the outdoor season, it ran some sluggish performances. Two of the runners, Crawford and Murrell, had run bests of 1:58; Mingo had a best of only 1:56 and Harder had suffered through two 1:58 efforts before running 1:52.9 at the UNO Invitational. But by the time the dust had

cleared in a 16-team field at Drake, the Mays had improved to a 1:52 split for Murrell, 1:52 for Mingo, 1:53 for Crawford and Harder's 1:50.3 anchor leg. The split times were approximate, giving the team its 7:29 final.

The relay itself came about by accident when sprinter Rich Bravo pulled up lame in an early-morning 4 X 100 preliminary heat. Because Bravo had been slated to run the sprint medley, the UNO coaches had to make a decision on how to fill in the empty leg. It was decided to forego that sprint medley and load up the 4 X 800, transferring Harder from the sprint-medley anchor to the 4 X 800 anchor.

In other track action over the weekend, UNO

sent a crew of athletes to the May Day Championships in Lincoln Sunday afternoon. Carlos Rodgers led the small Maverick contingent, placing third in the triple jump at 46-5 and fourth in the long jump at 21-2. Steve White was fifth in the 3,000-meter steeplechase at 9:54. Dayle Rasmussen ran 1:59.2 in the 800, and sophomores Scott Pachunka and Doug Mascher ran 15:03 and 15:15, respectively, in the 5,000-meter run. Bill Jacobson was fourth in the shot put at 47-8, and Devin Kosmicki was fifth in the pole vault at 15-0. Mike Jones, Gateway sports editor, running unattached, finished second in the 3,000-meter steeplechase at 9:26.5 and third in the 800 with a 1:54.3.

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# Mavericks lose baseball series against Cornhuskers

By POLIDOROS C. PSERROS

UNO's baseball team jumped up a level of competition this weekend in Lincoln and was humbled by Division I Nebraska in four straight games. The Division II Mavs lost 17-2 and 8-5 Saturday; Sunday, UNO lost 10-1 and 12-3.

UNO conformed to Big 8 rules and played scheduled nine-inning openers and seven-inning second games. The 17-2 loss was abbreviated after seven because of the 10-run rule.

Sunday's double-header, originally scheduled Friday for UNO's CWS Park, was postponed because of wet grounds. It was transferred to UNL's Buck Beltzer field, which has a turf infield and is covered with tarpaulin. Rain cancelled a scheduled double-header with Creighton Tuesday.

UNO went into the Nebraska games batting .346 but managed just 15 singles and three doubles for the series. Nebraska has "better pitchers than we've faced all year," UNO Coach Bob Gates said.

"We didn't play bad ball," he added. "It wasn't errors. It's tough to win a game when you don't hit."

Nebraska came into the games hitting .337. Much of the damage against UNO was done by metro-area standouts Paul Meyers, a sophomore from Westside, and Rich King, a junior from Millard North, as each homered twice. Nebraska pounded all of the Mav pitchers who saw action.

In game one, UNO starter Mike Grandgenett, 5-1, saw his 1.98 ERA and perfect record smashed to smithereens. Weakened by a stomach flu, he failed to retire any of the seven batters he faced. King smashed a high three-ball, two-strike fastball over the left-field foul pole for a three-run homer. King's 400-foot home run was not the most impressive at bat in the Husker's

10-run first inning. It was shortstop Larry Mims' 40-foot bunt.

Leadoff man Jeff Carter opened the game with a single to center. Grandgenett threw wild to first trying to pick him off and Carter advanced to second. With a two-ball, one-strike count, Mims, who has been drafted by the Reds, Mets, and Tigers, bunted as Carter broke for third. UNO third baseman Ed Dineen fielded it quickly and threw hard but late to first. Carter kept running and slid safely under first baseman Greg Munchrath's throw to catcher Jim Waters. The play established a pattern of Nebraska hitting, running and base stealing. Nebraska stole 16 bases from UNO, eight in game four.

In game two, UNO held a 1-0 first-inning lead and 4-1 third-inning lead out each time UNL came back in the bottom of the inning to tie or lead. "We could have won the game," Gates said. "We couldn't hold the lead."

Waters was UNO's hitting star. With bases loaded and one out in the third, Waters hit a one-strike fastball to right for a two-run single. Rich Longuil followed with a sacrifice fly that scored Grandgenett, who slid head first around the tag. In the fifth, Waters doubled to the base of the center-field fence to score another run, but it wasn't enough.

Dick Dineen had four hits in 12 at-bats, including two run-scoring doubles. Jim Palensky, who went hitless Saturday, had five hits in Sunday's double-header, and Grandgenett added two hits and walked four times in four games.

Dick Dineen didn't play in Saturday's second game because of an incident that ended game one. In the bottom of the sixth inning, UNL first baseman Mike Duncan singled in his team's 16th and 17th runs and advanced to second on the outfielder's

throw to the plate. Dineen said that UNO pitcher Barry Park complimented Duncan on his hit. Dineen said Duncan began yelling at Park. Dineen said that he yelled back at Duncan. The verbal exchange ended when right fielder Palensky, after catching a fly ball, caught Duncan off base to end the inning.

When the last Mav flew out to end the game, Dineen who was running to third, said he turned, head down, and crossed the infield when he saw Duncan's fist. Duncan hit him in the face and tried kicking him with his cleats before he was restrained. Umpires ejected both Dineen and Duncan from the second game.

Gates said he didn't want a repeat of the fight and told his players to try winning games with hitting, pitching, and fielding. "You don't win games with your mouths," he said. Dineen and Duncan crossed paths several times Sunday, but there were no further incidents.

After playing 1:30 p.m. double-headers at CWS Park with Tarkio today and Kearney State on Thursday, UNO will play four games with Morningside. The games will decide one of the Southern Division representatives in the North Central Conference Tournament next weekend. Gates said he will start Grandgenett in Friday's first game of the 1:30 p.m. double-header at CWS Park. Gates added that Rich Longuil would likely pitch the second game.

Saturday, UNO will travel to Sioux City for a 1:00 p.m. double-header. Gates said Mike Jones would be one of the starters. He also said the two nonconference games would prepare UNO's staff for the games against the Chiefs. He said the yet-to-be-named starters would be limited to three innings at most.

## Spring game closes drills in 23-17 victory for Reds

The Mavericks closed out spring football drills with the annual Spring Game, pitting the Reds against the Whites. The Reds consisted of the No. 1 offense and the No. 2 defense, and the Whites consisted of the No. 2 offense and the No. 1 defense. Buda said that it was a well-played game with a lot of intensity and a lot of enthusiasm. He said he was pleased with both the offense and defense.

"Both had their moments," Buda said. "The game started off with a lot of offense. The Reds scored early and the Whites marched right down the field afterwards."

The Reds, 23-17 winners, got on the scoreboard when Steve Macaitis carried it in from two yards out. Greg Morris converted the ex-

tra point. The 70-yard, eight-play drive started when Tom Hoffman intercepted a Scott Jamieson pass. It was Hoffman's fourth interception of the spring. Rick Majerus hit on two passes to receivers Terry Allen and James Quaites for 21 and 43 yards, respectively. Majerus mixed up the passing game by handing off to Jeff Hardick and Macaitis for four carries and 16 yards.

The Whites returned fire with a 47-yard pass play to Don Brummer for a touchdown. Kevin Todd kicked the point after.

"Bobby (Thompson, UNO's offensive coordinator) called all the plays," Buda said. "I've got a lot of confidence in his coaching ability."

"The defenses really took over in the third

quarter," Buda said, "but both teams played with a lot of intensity the full 60 minutes."

Buda said that the game was far from perfect, with a few fumbles, interceptions and broken plays, but that it gave everyone a chance to get out and play. The quarterback situation wasn't cleared up much, but Buda said he didn't expect it to be.

"We've got a ways to go before the first game," Buda said, "and the quarterback question probably won't be answered until sometime this fall."

The game closed out in typical Buda fashion with a flurry of activity in the closing minutes of the fourth quarter. Trailing 16-10, the

Whites unloaded with an 85 yard bomb from Jamieson to Gerald Kellogg with 9:13 remaining. Majerus then guided the Reds on a touchdown march that ate over six minutes off the clock. Five passes, seven runs, an incomplete pass, a fumble and a big-pass interference call marked the 89 yard drive that put the Reds ahead 23-17. Steven Silva carted the ball into the end zone from 22 yards out for the touchdown. The clock showed 2:52 remaining.

Kelly McClintic then took the Whites on a 60-yard drive that ended on the Reds 13-yard line as time expired. The drive scattered four passes, four runs and an opportune pass interference call to make the game.



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